THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT SEATTLE

STACIE DAVIS,

CASE NO. C19-1929-JCC

MINUTE ORDER

Plaintiff,

v.

HELEN C. CHOO, et al.,

Defendants.

The following Minute Order is made by direction of the Court, the Honorable John C. Coughenour, United States District Judge:

This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiff Stacie Davis's response and request for an extension of time to file proof of service of process (Dkt. No. 21). On September 28, 2020, the Court denied Ms. Davis's motions for default judgment because she did not show the defendants were properly served in a manner authorized by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4. (Dkt. No. 20.) The Court ordered Ms. Davis to file proof of service by October 12, 2020 and indicated that absent such proof, the Court would dismiss the case without prejudice for lack of prosecution. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m) (requiring service within 90 days of filing a complaint); (Dkt. No. 20.)

Ms. Davis has now responded to the Court's order and asks for additional time to show proof of service because she needs to get a copy of her bank records "showing the purchase at

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the post office." (Dkt. No. 21.) It appears Ms. Davis may have attempted to perfect service of process by U.S. mail. However, that is not an authorized manner of serving an individual or local government. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(e), (j). While a plaintiff may, in a writing addressed to an individual defendant, request that the individual defendant waive service of summons, *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(d)(1), Ms. Davis's response does not state that such a request is what she mailed. (*See* Dkt. No. 21.)

Nevertheless, the Court will exercise its broad discretion to extend the time for service under Rule 4(m). Accordingly, the Court GRANTS Ms. Davis's request for an extension of time (Dkt. No. 21). Ms. Davis is ORDERED to serve the remaining defendants and file proof of service by October 30, 2020. If she does not, the case will be dismissed without prejudice. To serve the defendants, Ms. Davis must comply with Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4, which is available for free at https://www.law.cornell.edu/rules/frcp/rule\_4.

DATED this 16th day of October 2020.

William M. McCool
Clerk of Court

s/Tomas Hernandez
Deputy Clerk

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